

# Volunteers-in-Parks Newsletter

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



Valley Forge National Historical Park

## Upcoming Events

February 1, 2017

### February 3 (10-11am): Quarterly Coffee

*Join us for the Quarterly Coffee with the superintendent and Valley Forge Park Alliance. RSVP to Cristina.*

### February 7 (7pm): Friends Speaker Series (Ben Franklin's Navy)

*The rarely told combination of adventure, intrigue, comedy, and tragedy that is the story of Franklin as the unofficial leader of the Continental Navy. For more information, visit <http://vfparkalliance.org/>*

### February 20: Washington's Birthday

*Mark your calendars and keep an eye out for an email about signing up to volunteer. The Valley Forge Park Alliance will organize volunteers for this year's event, so stay tuned for that email invitation.*

### February 27 (1-3pm): Active Shooter Training at Valley Forge National Historical Park

*VIPs are strongly encouraged to attend this classroom training (no mock scenarios) and learn how to react during an Active Shooter Incident. Space is limited. Get details and sign up here: <https://goo.gl/forms/sdj8z8iogiS7Zuu73>.*

### March 7 (7pm): Friends Speaker Series (The Revolution's Last Men: The Soldiers Behind the Photos)

*The six surviving soldiers who fought in the Revolutionary War were interviewed and photographed in 1864. A researcher and writer tells their stories. For more information, visit <http://vfparkalliance.org/>*

### March 14 & 21 (8am): VF Park Alliance Bird Walk

*Join VIPs Tom and Mary Ellen on a fun bird walk. Meet at Artillery Park.*

## Volunteer & Park Updates

Know how to sew? A volunteer is needed to help sew small circular patches onto backpacks for 22 new Park Ambassador volunteers. Contact Cristina if you are interested in helping out this new, creative way.

Are you over the age of 62 and want a lifetime pass to all national parks? Get yours ASAP before they raise the cost to \$80. Right now you can order one online for \$20, or buy one for \$10 at a national park with a fee (not Valley Forge). Get the details here: <https://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/passes.htm>.

### Ongoing Opportunity to Index Hopewell Furnace's Digital 19 Century Account Books

*Volunteers work with Hopewell Furnace staff and a lead volunteer to link page citations to specific Hopewell Furnace workers. Account books are accessed via <http://npgallery.nps.gov/hofu/>. Work can be done at home. Email [rebecca\\_ross@nps.gov](mailto:rebecca_ross@nps.gov) if interested.*

Get ready for the opening of the Museum of the American Revolution: [https://www.amrevmuseum.org/read-the-revolution/history/valley-forge-winter?utm\\_source=tw&utm\\_medium=post&utm\\_campaign=rtr](https://www.amrevmuseum.org/read-the-revolution/history/valley-forge-winter?utm_source=tw&utm_medium=post&utm_campaign=rtr).

Park Watch VIPs: Please remember to use the new Monthly Report form to submit your hours and reports starting in November. Hours should be submitted no later than the 5<sup>th</sup> of the following month (i.e. submit January hours no later than February 5<sup>th</sup>). While Ellen is out of the office (Nov-early March), all monthly reports, hours, or issues, should be submitted to [Cristina\\_Ramirez@partner.nps.gov](mailto:Cristina_Ramirez@partner.nps.gov).

Thank you for making our centennial year a memorable one. Please note that use of the centennial pins ends on December 31. They are a keepsake that should not be worn while volunteering after that date.

NPS has a number of other summer 2017 internship opportunities across the country—please share freely:

1. [Student Conservation Association Internships](#): Programs designed for a range of ages and needs.
2. [Geoscientists In the Parks](#): Matches college students and recent graduates age 18 - 35 years old with short-term, paid, internships with NPS. **Due 2/2/2017.**
3. [Latino Heritage Internship Program Application](#): Trains young people in the skills of cultural, historical, natural resource management. Raises awareness of our national parks and historic sites, their accessibility and the need for the Latino community's involvement in their preservation. Only 18 highly motivated undergraduate and graduate students selected. **Due 2/6/17.**
4. [Mosaics In Science Application](#): Provides college students and recent graduates 18-35 years old that are under-represented in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) with NPS work experience. Interns work 11 weeks in a park followed by a 4 day career workshop in Washington, D.C.
5. [Historically Black Colleges and Universities Initiative Internship Program](#): innovative program brought to you by Greening Youth Foundation in partnership with NPS.
6. [Cultural Resources Diversity Internship Program](#): Introduces undergraduate and graduate students from under-represented communities to NPS career opportunities and other institutions focused on cultural resources and historic preservation. Summer internship info available by February 2017.

## Safety Reminders

1. Please review the Valley Forge Superintendent's Compendium: <https://www.nps.gov/vafo/learn/management/upload/2015-VAFO-Compendium.pdf>.
2. Please program the Montgomery County Non-Emergency Line (610-275-1222) into your cell phone. For immediate emergencies (safety or medical) ALWAYS call 911. For all other circumstances call the Non-Emergency number—NOT the Ranger Station.
3. If there are hazardous weather conditions or you are not sure if the park is open, please call the Valley Forge Snow Line: 610-783-1095. Also, see attached updated Standard Operating Procedure for weather related closure or late opening of park offices and buildings.

## Recent Events



Thanks to the 13 participants from the Loyola "Partners in the Parks" program who came for service learning on January 6, 2017. The students are part of The National Collegiate Honors Council and will give a presentation about their experience at their national conference this November.